

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 15, 1896.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. HAWLEY, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany S. R. 130.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the joint resolution (S. R. 130) to extend the rights and privileges granted by an act entitled "An act authorizing the construction of a railway upon the Government reservation at Fortress Monroe" to the Newport News, Hampton and Old Point Railway Company, in the State of Virginia, have had the same under consideration and report as follows:

The bill was referred to the Secretary of War, who returned it with a report by the Judge-Advocate-General, as follows:

Under authority of an act of Congress approved March 3, 1891, the Secretary of War, under date of November 14, 1891, gave permission to the Hampton and Old Point Railway Company to construct, maintain, and operate a street railway upon the military reservation of Fort Monroe, Va.

The said company has recently consolidated with the Hampton and Newport News Street Railway Company, pursuant to an act of the general assembly of Virginia, under the name of the Newport News, Hampton and Old Point Railway Company, and on March 10, 1896, the Secretary of War gave this consolidated company a revocable license to maintain and operate the street railway "under the same conditions and requirements as are imposed" on the original licensee, upon condition that it should apply to Congress for authority to maintain and operate the railway.

The inclosed joint resolution (S. R. 130) appears to be the result of an effort to comply with this condition.

The act of March 3, 1891, authorized the Secretary of War to grant the Hampton and Old Point Railway Company permission to construct, maintain, and operate the street railway, but provided inter alia—

"That the privileges hereby granted may at anytime be rescinded or suspended by order of the Secretary of War; and said corporation shall, at anytime, when so ordered by the Secretary of War, remove its rails and all other fixtures and appurtenances at its own expense and cost without any claim of any kind whatever for any loss, damage, or compensation of any kind from the United States."

The inclosed joint resolution grants the same "rights and privileges" to the said consolidated company that were granted by said act of Congress to the Hampton and Old Point Railway Company, "subject to the same conditions and restrictions imposed upon the Hampton and Old Point Railway Company by the said act."

It is believed that this resolution would not enlarge the "rights and privileges" granted by said act of March 3, 1891, and no objection is seen to its passage.

In view of the facts stated in the above report, the committee recommend the passage of the joint resolution.

